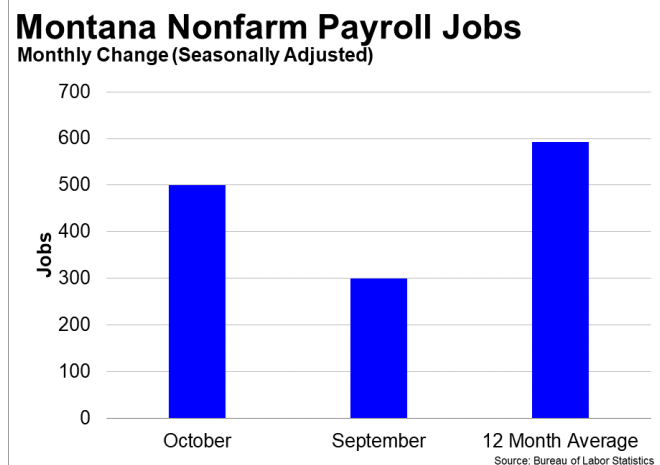
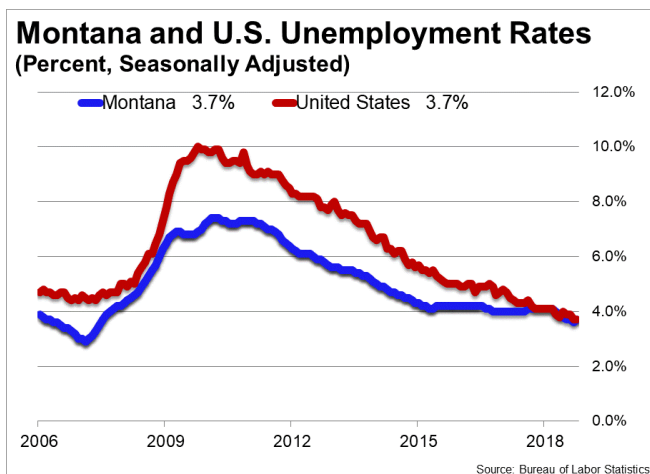




November 16, 2018

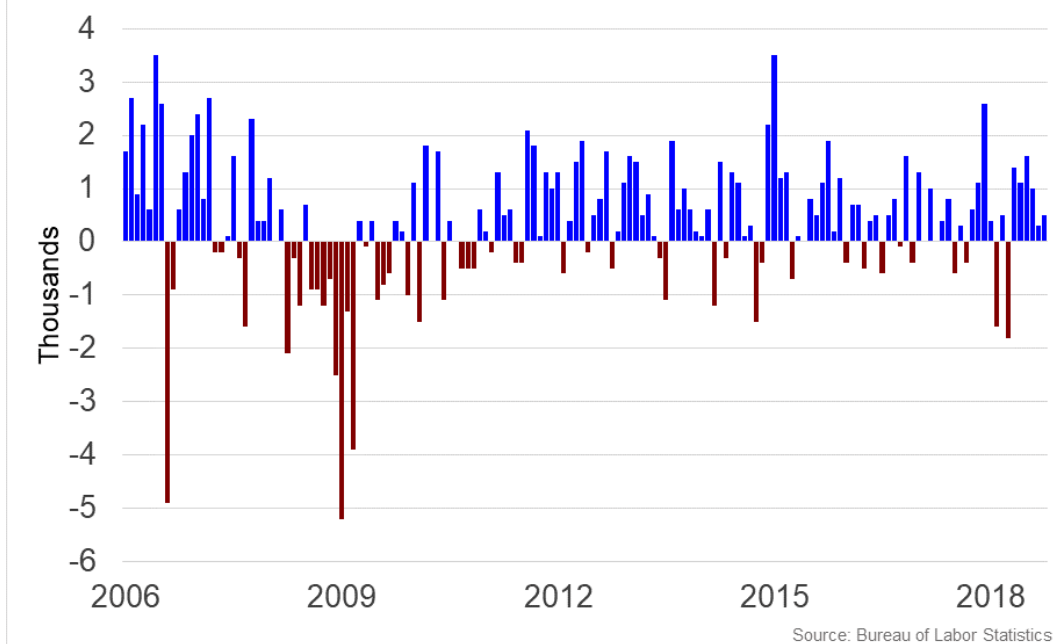
## Summary

- **Montana added 500 jobs and the unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 3.7 percent in October** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Montana added 7,100 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point from 4.1 percent.
- **In October, Montana's private sector added 900 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 6,500 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Montanans rose by 47 in October**, and over the past year 334 Montanans lost jobs.
- Montana's **labor force participation rate remains unchanged** from 62 percent in October. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 1.1 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.7 percent in October**. State employment and unemployment data for November is scheduled for release on December 21, 2018. The national employment situation report for November will be released on Friday, December 7, 2018.



# Montana Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



## Montana Payroll Employment

Montana added 500 jobs, or 0.10 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during October. In the prior month, Montana added 300 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Montana increased by 7,100, or 1.50 percent. Montana nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 10 of the past 12 months.

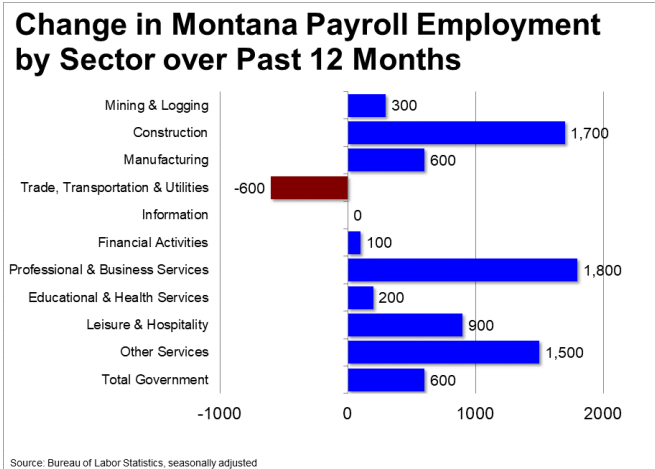
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 250,000 jobs in October, or 0.17 percent. Over the 12-month period ending October 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,516,000 jobs, or 1.71 percent. Montana ranks 15th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During October, Montana's private-sector added 900 jobs, or 0.23 percent. The private-sector in Montana added 600 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Montana increased by 6,500, or 1.70 percent. Montana private-sector payroll employment has increased in 10 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 246,000 jobs in October, or 0.19 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,450,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.96 percent. Montana ranks 16th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during October were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+500) and Leisure & Hospitality (+300). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Total Government (-400) and Construction (-400).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+1,800) and Construction (+1,700). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-600) and Information (unchanged).



## Montana Labor Force Statistics

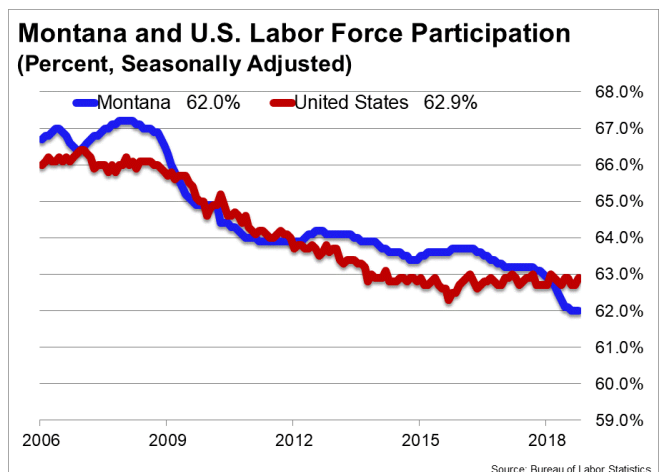
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Montana was unchanged at 62.0 percent in October. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 35 have a higher labor force participation rate than Montana. The labor force participation rate in Montana is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Montana was 66.7 percent in November 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Montana occurred in April 1990 when the labor force participation rate hit 69.4 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 62.0 percent in October 2018. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in July 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 61.2 percent. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.2 percentage point to 62.9 percent in October, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

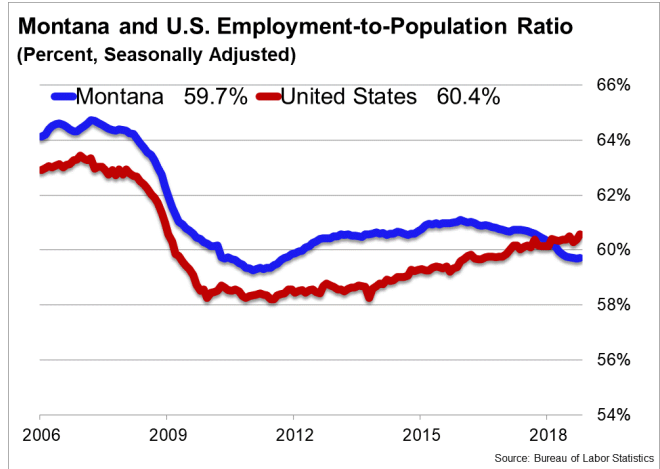
### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Montana civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at 59.7 percent in October. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 33 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Montana. The employment-to-population ratio in



Montana is 0.8 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Montana was 62.7 percent in November 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Montana occurred in April 1990 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 65.6 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 59.3 percent in April 2011. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in July 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 57.5 percent.



The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.2 percentage point to 60.6 percent in October. That rate was 0.4 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.